

COLUMBUS CITY COUNCIL Agenda Highlights for November 9, 2009

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HELPING POLICE SOLVE CRIMES WITH MORE EFFICIENT DNA TESTING: The Columbus Police crime lab will be processing DNA evidence more proficiently with Public Safety Committee Chair Andrew J. Ginther's sponsorship of *ordinance 1454-2009*. The legislation will authorize acceptance of a \$215,461 grant through the Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program from the National Institute of Justice. Funds will be used for DNA analysis supplies, overtime for analysts to work on established cases, the hiring of a new forensic scientist, and training analysts in the latest technologies in this evolving scientific field.

PREPARING FOR 2010 POLICE RECRUIT CLASS: A federally funded Columbus Police recruit class is scheduled to begin early next year. Councilmember <u>A. Troy Miller</u>, chair of the Administration Committee, is sponsoring *ordinance 1445-2009* to modify a contract with Ohio State University to perform pre-employment physicals and cardiovascular stress testing of public safety applicants. The legislation will allow sufficient time for the Division of Police to process the police officer applicants.

PALEY SUPPORTING CONSTRUCTION AT THE SOUTHERLY WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT:

Public Utilities Committee Chair <u>Eileen Y. Paley</u> is sponsoring *ordinance 1321-2009* to begin the first phase of construction for the Southerly Wastewater Treatment Support Facilities project. The legislation authorizes the transfer of \$10,774,413.20 from the Sewer System Reserve Fund to the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund for the demolition and construction of buildings and support facilities by Miles-McClellan Construction Company at the Southerly Wastewater Plant.

HELPING FAMILIES WITH EMERGENCY HOUSEHOLD REPAIRS: The Home Safe and Sound Program (HSSP) helps low income individuals and families make needed repairs to their houses. The program includes, but is not limited to, repairing or replacing roofs, correcting housing code violations, and other services to help residents remain in their homes and live independently in a safe environment. Councilmember Charleta B. Tavares, chair of the Health, Housing & Human Services Committee, is sponsoring *ordinance* 1526-2009 to allow the Development Department to spend \$90,696 already in the HSSP to expand the program to include emergency repair services such as heating, plumbing, electrical and other home repairs.

PREPARING FOR WINTER POTHOLES: The temperature may reach nearly 70 degrees today, but the City of Columbus is preparing for potholes on city streets and roadways this winter. Public Service & Transportation Committee Chair <u>Hearcel F. Craig</u> is sponsoring *ordinance 1466-2009* to purchase up to \$50,000 of winter asphalt from Apple Smith Corporation. Winter asphalt is used by personnel in the Department of Public Service to repair streets and roadways during the cold weather months.

PRESIDENT MENTEL ADVOCATING FOR RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES: The annual McDonald's All American High School Basketball Games showcase the top high school basketball talent in America, and next spring the prestigious event comes to Columbus. The event, held March 31, 2010 at the Value City Arena on the campus of The Ohio State University, brings together 24 boys and 24 girls who are selected from a pool of more than 2,500 nominees. Council President Michael C. Mentel will participate in the ticket campaign tip-off for this national event that helps raise money for the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Ohio. The tip-off event will be held at the Schottenstein Center Tuesday, November 10 at 10:00 a.m. in the Fred Taylor Room.